

# WE ARE NOT SHOOTING WITH AN AIR-GUN.

Mercantile Mortars--charged to the muzzle--are what we fire!

## BEGINNING THIS MORNING

Not because we are forced to!

Not because we need to!

BUT BECAUSE WE WANT TO!

We shall offer you the absolutely free and unrestricted choice of thousands of

### Not a Job Lot of Stickers, BUT THOUSANDS

Of honest value suits--  
cut in every style that  
fashion dictates and fan-  
cy can desire--  
Single-breasted Sack Suits.  
Double-breasted Sack Suits.  
Regent Cutaway Suits.

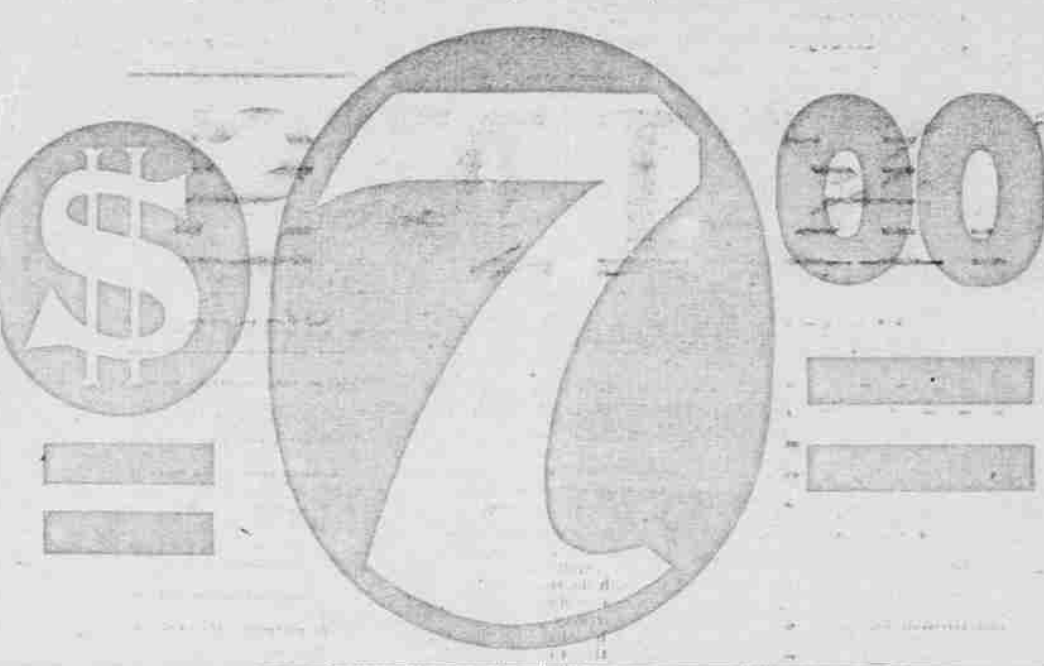
Right in every way--  
fabric, making and fit--  
with only one weak spot  
about 'em--and that's the  
price.

**\$7.00**



### MEN'S ALL-WOOL SUITS.

Just as they lie on our tables--and that are unmatched values at  
**\$13.50, \$12.50, and \$10.00 for**



### Not a Handful of Relics, BUT THOUSANDS.

Of brand-new perfect  
Suits--created for us  
and by us--this sea-  
son--and that you  
know have been  
selling for and are  
worth

**\$13.50--Actual Value!**  
**\$12.50--Actual Value!**  
**\$10.00--Actual Value!**

No poverty of sizes--no  
doubtful qualities--no off-  
styles. No juggling of prices--  
cut and dried preparations--  
but one big all-including cut  
that gives your choice free-  
rein for

**\$7.00**



### OUR GUARANTEE

We want it distinctly understood that any Suit you buy in this sale--or any other of ours--is just as represented in quality--and lower in price than it can possibly be offered elsewhere--no matter under what pretext. If not cheaper--you to be the judge--you'll oblige us by returning it to us within ten days--unworn and unsoiled--and your money will be refunded without question or debate.

THIS IS OUR  
Annual  
Christmas Offering.

Penna. Ave. and Seventh Street.

MORE GENEROUS  
Than it ever  
was before.

### CARLISLE'S ANXIETY CONCERNING HIS BILL

He Has a Lengthy Consultation With  
the Committee on Rules.

WANTED TO POST LEADERS

No Effort Is to Be Made to Close De-  
bate Before January 8.

Opposition to the Measure Getting More Pro-  
nounced Every Day--Long List of Mem-  
bers Who Intend to Speak--Of Thirty  
Who Will Antagonize It with Speeches  
Eighteen Are Democrats--One on the  
Committee on Banking and Currency.

Developments yesterday strengthen the be-  
lief that the currency bill is to have a hard  
time in the House. Secretary Carlisle evi-  
dently became aware of the fact that the  
efforts to force rapid action on it were unpop-  
ular, for he appeared at the Capitol early in  
the day and had a consultation with the Com-  
mittee on Rules, after which it was announced  
that there would be no present attempt to  
start debate.

Mr. Carlisle's arrival at the Capitol caused  
quite a buzz among the members. The Sec-  
retary first sought Chairman Springer, of the  
Banking and Currency Committee, but as he  
did not arrive at the House until late, Mr.  
Carlisle joined Speaker Crisp in his private  
office. About that time Representatives Cren-  
shaw and Outwater who, with the Speaker,  
constitute the Democratic membership of the  
Committee on Rules, came in and an informal  
meeting was held as to the plan of procedure  
on the currency bill.

As far as could be learned Mr. Carlisle  
made no suggestions as to the length of the  
debate or the time of taking a vote. After a  
general talk of half an hour he withdrew in a  
carriage of Mr. Springer, and not finding him  
at the rooms of the Committee on Banking  
and Currency, left the Capitol.

The main purpose of Mr. Carlisle's visit  
was to put the Democratic leaders in posses-  
sion of information to overcome certain criti-  
cisms advanced against the Carlisle bill. It  
had been urged on the floor on Tuesday and  
Wednesday that the bill was a mere money  
maneuver and that the Carlisle plan might result  
in loss by the government. Mr. Carlisle  
pointed out, however, that it was the univer-  
sal agreement among bankers that the so-  
called Baltimore plan could occasion

NO POSSIBLE LOSS TO THE GOVERNMENT.  
He further pointed out that his plan had a  
safely fund 50 per cent. greater than that  
provided in the Baltimore plan. From this  
he showed that if the bankers were correct in  
their unanimous agreement that the Balti-  
more plan could occasion no loss to the gov-  
ernment, it was even more certain that the  
Carlisle bill now before the House could oc-  
casion no loss.

This view will be made plain to the House  
in the course of the debate. The informal  
meeting of the Committee on Rules brought  
about a tacit understanding of what course  
would be pursued, although no exact rule fix-  
ing the programme was agreed on. It was

considered advisable to let the present de-  
bate run along without any rule as it is pro-  
ceeding satisfactorily thus far. It may be de-  
veloped that no rule is necessary to close the  
debate. In any event there was no rule yester-  
day nor will there be one today, and the  
debate will go over until after the holidays.  
It will then be resumed under the five-minute  
rule, with the desire to have a vote on Tues-  
day, January 8. In case there is opposition to  
the vote at that time a rule will be brought in,  
as there is no purpose to let the debate run  
beyond that time.

As soon as the regular routine had been  
disposed of the House went into Committee  
of the Whole and

DEBATE WAS RESUMED.  
Mr. Johnson, of Indiana, one of the mi-  
nority members of the Banking and Currency  
Committee, opened the debate with a vigor-  
ous speech in opposition to the Carlisle bill.  
Admitting the defects in our currency system,  
he said their correction could not be obtained  
by the passage of a bill along the lines sug-  
gested by the Banking and Currency Com-  
mittee. It was much easier to attack the  
present system than offer a safe substitute for  
it. The present system had given the country  
a greenback currency which enabled the gov-  
ernment to carry on the war, and it procured  
a market for our bonds in the hour of danger  
and peril.

The currency bill produced had never been  
questioned. While remedial legislation might  
be advisable this was no time for experi-  
mental legislation. There was no need of in-  
doctrinating Congress in this matter could  
well afford to make haste slowly.

Mr. Warner, of New York, spoke in support  
of the bill.  
Mr. Ellis, of Kentucky, who followed Mr.  
Warner, was the first Democratic member of  
the Banking and Currency Committee to at-  
tack the Carlisle bill. At the outset he  
proclaimed that he was convinced that his  
passage would remedy some of the defects of  
the bill.

PRESENT FINANCIAL SYSTEM.  
In the committee two conflicting theories  
had struggled for supremacy. One urged by  
the office of the government who desired  
protection from the assaults of the gold specu-  
lators, and the other urged by the bankers  
who sought to extend their privileges and in-  
crease their power and profits. The people  
had nothing to hope from such schemes. He  
charged that behind the bill were the same  
influences that forced the repeal of the Sher-  
man act and who on that occasion had pre-  
dicted that prosperity would follow the re-  
peal.

The repeal of the Sherman law having now  
admittedly failed, this currency scheme, he  
said, had been industriously pressed forward  
by the same high authority. For thirty years  
the Democratic party had condemned the national  
bank system, yet it was now proposed not  
only to perpetuate the system, but to perpetu-  
ate it in a form more objectionable than that  
in which it at present existed.

Mr. Ellis, in conclusion, charged the Demo-  
cratic party in Congress with being false to  
its Chicago platform pledges in not passing a  
tariff bill for revenue only, in not repealing  
outright the 10 per cent. tax on State banks,  
and in not restoring silver to its position as a  
money metal on the same terms with gold.

"Democratic promises," said he, "will not  
be redeemed until the people elect a Demo-  
cratic President. When that day comes, as I  
believe it will, the Chief Executive will not  
be chosen from that small and select class  
who believe that all the financial integrity  
and capacity in this country is

QUARANTINED ON MANHATTAN ISLAND."  
An unexpectedly strong opposition to the  
bill now before the House is disclosed by the  
list of those who have asked for time to speak  
on the measure. Two lists have been made,  
one for members of the Banking Committee  
who wish to be heard and the other for mem-  
bers not on the committee. The committee

lists shows the members divided on party  
lines, except Representative Ellis, of Ken-  
tucky, who asked for time to speak against  
the bill. The other list shows fifteen mem-  
bers who will speak for the bill and thirty  
against it. Of the thirty against it, eighteen  
are Democrats. The list of speakers is as  
follows:

For the bill--McCreary, Pendleton of West  
Virginia, Bynum, Talbot, Lane, Berry, Brick-  
ner, Sikes, Caruth, Tracey, Livingston,  
Gresham, Counts, and Stockdale.  
Against the bill--Lingley (Rep.), Shiley  
(Dem.), Hendrix (Dem.), Cochran (Dem.),  
Bowers (Rep.), Bland (Dem.), Hatch (Dem.),  
Belthoover (Dem.), Coffey (Dem.), Mc-  
Laurin (Dem.), Bryan (Dem.), Daniels (Rep.),  
Woodcock (Dem.), Powers (Rep.), C. W. Stone  
(Rep.), C. K. Bell (Dem.), Lacey (Rep.),  
Maguire (Dem.), Richardson, of Michigan  
(Dem.), Nowlan (Silverite), Dolliver (Rep.),  
Simpson (Pop.), Funes (Pop.), Bova (Pop.),  
Cooper, of Texas (Dem.), Rawlins (Pop.),  
Holman (Dem.), Neill (Dem.), J. C. Bell (Pop.),  
and Little (Dem.).

All of those for the bill are Democrats.  
Those against it are: Democrats, 18; Republi-  
cans, 7; Populists, 4; and Newlands, Silver, 1.

### LABOR ARBITRATION BILL

Chiefs Arthur and Clark Before the House  
Labor Committee.

An interesting session of the House Com-  
mittee on Labor was held yesterday. Chief  
Arthur, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive  
Engineers, and Chief Clark, of the Brother-  
hood of Railroad Conductors, being heard on  
the question of national arbitration of strikes.  
Miss Ida Wells, the young colored woman  
who has lectured through Europe against  
Southern lynchings, was among those pres-  
ent, being anxious to secure a hearing on  
Representative Wright's resolution for an in-  
vestigation of lynching.

Chairman McMillan of the Labor Committee,  
for a national commission of arbitration was read,  
but as the measure is not yet in bill form  
Messrs. Arthur and Clark reserved their opin-  
ion on this particular bill until later. They  
expressed themselves unqualifiedly in favor  
of the principle of Federal arbitration. Mr.  
Arthur said that his organization would not  
even object to compulsory arbitration, as they  
had never been involved in trouble where they  
would not have submitted to the judgment  
of an impartial board.

Mr. Clark's views were along the same line  
of general approval of arbitration. The chief  
agreed also that the plan of national incor-  
poration of labor organizations, the individ-  
uals to be subject to removal for violence or  
lawlessness, was desirable so long as the in-  
dividuals were not made personally liable for  
acts of the organizations as a whole.  
Mr. Clark argued against the plan of local  
jurisdiction, as they were not art, and he  
prejudiced by local feeling. On the other  
hand, national arbitration being removed  
from local prejudices could secure the best  
results for both parties.

Chief of the Labor Committee,  
has introduced Commissioner Wright's bill  
and expects to resume hearings on it after the  
holidays. At that time also Miss Wells will  
be heard on the lynching question.

Harris Will Be Taken to New York.  
CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 19.--Detective  
Reilly, who came here from New York, to get  
W. H. Harris, the scheme promoter, formerly  
of Washington, D. C., received a telegram  
from Gov. McKinley to-day that the Governor  
of New York had filed the proper requisition  
papers, and that he had honored them. Har-  
ris will be taken to New York immediately.

Ida Wells' Lecture To-night--Hon. Fred-  
erick Douglass will preside at Miss Ida Wells'  
lecture to-night at the Metropolitan A. M. E.  
Church, on M street, between Fifteenth and  
Sixteenth.

### DOCTORS DISAGREE ON AN IMPORTANT BILL

Objections to the Measure Proposing  
to License Physicians.

THREE SCHOOLS AT ODDS

Commissioners Give a Hearing to  
Their Representatives.

Homeopaths and Eclectics Declare That the  
Bill in Question Places the Selection of  
the Examining Board Entirely in the  
Hands of the Medical Society of the Dis-  
trict, Which Consists of Allopaths Only.

The several schools of medicine were largely  
represented in a conference with the District  
Commissioners yesterday by leading local re-  
presentatives, and there was a lively but good-  
natured discussion in progress for an hour or  
more.

There were present Drs. J. B. G. Custis, S.  
C. Busby, G. Wythe Cook, W. W. Johnson, D.  
W. Prentiss, C. H. A. Kleinschmidt, C. G.  
Stone, J. Wesley Boyce, C. B. Purvis, W. C.  
Woodward, John S. McLain, T. B. Bland, G.  
L. Magruder and J. H. McCormick.

The subject under consideration was H. R.  
bill 8133, "to regulate the practice of medicine  
and surgery and to license physicians," and  
the principal spokesmen were Dr. Busby, al-  
lopathic, of the District Medical Society;  
Dr. Custis, of the Homeopathic Society; and  
Dr. Bland, of the Eclectic School, all of whom,  
with all those in attendance, were agreed as  
to the necessity for the enactment of a regu-  
lating law, but a difference arose as to the  
provisions of the particular bill discussed.

Dr. Busby advocated the measure in strong  
terms. He said that the absence of a law  
against charlatans and quacks generally was  
tolerated nowhere else as it is in the District.  
Any one can practice medicine here without  
a license, and Washington people, as no other  
people, are subjected to imposition and fraud  
in this particular.

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lating law, but a difference arose as to the  
provisions of the particular bill discussed.

This is the rock on which the medical bark  
is split, for as the conference is concerned, split  
into three fragments. Dr. Custis contended  
that the board of examiners should not be  
composed exclusively of one school; that the  
homeopathic profession is justly entitled to  
equal representation. He was in favor of a  
bill to elevate the profession, but in the con-  
stitution of the board he regarded the pend-  
ing measure as

GROSSLY PARTIAL.  
Dr. Purvis said in his opinion the Medical  
Society was grasping for an opportunity to  
control the medical fraternity, regardless of  
the law of equal justice and equal rights. He  
said that from among the 400 reputable phy-  
sicians in the District the Commissioners  
would be able to select the examiners without  
bias, and he could see no propriety in con-  
ferring the power of arbitrary dictation upon

any one organization. He predicted that if  
the Commissioners returned the bill to Con-  
gress without amendment it would be killed  
there. He thought it well to have its defects  
expunged before it gets back to the law-  
makers.

Dr. Bland criticized both the allopathic and  
homeopathic schools indiscriminately. He  
quoted the law conferring upon the eclectic  
society the same rights, and entitling it to  
the same degree of respect guaranteed to  
others, and demanded equal consideration in  
the bill.

Health Officer Woodward filed a report  
upon the subject, in which he recited the  
several acts of Congress in force in the Dis-  
trict, spoke of previous efforts to agree upon  
a bill that would be satisfactory to the sev-  
eral schools of medicine, and said:

"An examination of the first section of the  
bill presented shows that the board of exam-  
iners is to be selected from a list submitted by  
a majority of the Medical Society of the Dis-  
trict of Columbia. To the non-medical public this  
will hardly appear just in view of the Home-  
opathic and Eclectic Societies having been  
chartered by Congress and endowed with  
practically the same rights as the Medical  
Society. It is in maintaining a single stand-  
ard and at the same time the adjusting of the  
differences between these societies that

THE GREATEST DIFFICULTY ARISES.  
"The plan in vogue in different States may  
be broadly classified as those having mixed  
boards of examiners and those having sepa-  
rate boards.

"Under the mixed board system there is  
but one board of examiners and that is com-  
posed of representatives of each medical so-  
ciety. Candidates are examined by the en-  
tire board upon subjects upon which all  
physicians agree, as anatomy, chemistry,  
osteopathy, etc., and by the representatives of  
the society to whose belief the candidates ad-  
here, upon those branches upon which that  
society holds peculiar views, as therapeutics.  
Such a plan is in very successful operation in  
New Jersey and other States.

"The question in the District was, however,  
upon the basis of representation, of the dif-  
ferent societies. An effort was made to reach  
an agreement, but the smaller societies de-  
manded an equal representation with the  
larger, and no conclusion was reached.  
"Under the separate board system each  
society or so-called school has its own board  
of medical examiners, and their work is un-  
der the basis of representation, of the dif-  
ferent societies. An effort was made to reach  
an agreement, but the smaller societies de-  
manded an equal representation with the  
larger, and no conclusion was reached.

OF THE TWO PLANS THE FORMER SEEMS BETTER  
adapted here on account of its simplicity and  
the small area and comparatively small popu-  
lation of the District. The other plan, while  
more cumbersome, would, I believe, prove  
equally effective. That law is to be preferred  
upon which the greater number of physicians  
agree."

The Commissioners had no time yesterday  
for the consideration of the suggestions made,  
nor of the bill, having an engagement at the  
Capitol which lasted until 5 o'clock.

The opinion was expressed by a prominent  
physician last evening that the bill would  
not pass Congress. He does not believe the  
differences can be adjusted.

### ESCAPED THE TRIAL BY KILLING HERSELF

Mrs. Emma Reed Found Hanging in  
Her Cell at the Jail.

HER COMPANION NOT AROUSED

The Dead Woman Choked to Death  
Without Uttering a Sound.

She Occupied Cell No. 8 in the Women's De-  
partment--Moody and Ill at Ease--  
Dreaded the Outcome of the Trial for  
Alleged Larceny--Coroner Decides the  
Death Could Not Have Been Prevented.

Rather than endure the torture of a public  
trial and probable imprisonment, Mrs. Emma  
Reed, a German woman of about fifty years,  
hanged herself in her cell in the District jail  
at an early hour yesterday morning. A col-  
ored woman, who was a cell mate of Mrs.



Reed, woke up to find herself locked up with  
a corpse.

The trial of Mrs. Reed was to have come up  
in the police court yesterday morning, but  
the case had to be postponed.

Mrs. Reed used to be a tenant of Mrs. Shen,  
who has lately been converted to Christianity  
as told exclusively in yesterday's Times, in a  
disagreeable house on Maryland avenue, but  
she was driven from there by Serat, Daley  
to a house on First street northwest, within  
a stone's throw of the Capitol. Samuel Lan-  
caster claimed to have been robbed in the  
house of \$21, and all the women in the house  
were arrested. It was for this offense that  
Mrs. Reed was to have been tried yesterday.

The suicide was confined in the jail await-  
ing trial about two weeks. She occupied cell  
No. 8, in the women's department. At first

Mrs. Reed's cell companion was an old and  
staid colored woman of middle age, but the  
request of the former a younger colored  
woman of a more lively nature, named Frances  
Lewis, was placed in the cell with Mrs.  
Reed.

Lately the suicide suffered from insomnia  
and headaches, but a few doses of bromide  
seemed to restore her. However, she has  
been moody and ill at ease, dreading the out-  
come of her trial, although she protested that  
she was sure they could not convict her.

Mrs. Reed and the Lewis girl went to bed  
at the prescribed hour Tuesday night. The  
latter was soundly asleep when the other  
arose and softly tore off a piece of the bed  
sheet. Then she stood on a chair and tied  
the improvised rope, the woman, sitting  
one end to the iron bars in the transom ven-  
tilator. As the door is wooden, no one out-  
side could have detected her. After making  
without a warning her sleepless cell-mate.

Finally the Lewis girl awoke, and awoke  
when she saw the suspended body. Guard  
Smith soon appeared and cut the corpse down.  
She was then quite dead.

Mrs. Reed was a widow, and was born in  
Berlin. Coroner Hammett decided that the  
suicide could not have been prevented.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.  
Licenses to marry were issued yesterday to  
the following:

Amelia McNeal and Martha Fling, both of  
Louisiana county, Va.; James M. Thatcher and  
Delena Pettis, both of Loudoun county, Va.;  
William Carter and Betsy Brown, both of  
King George county, Va.; Joshua Nelson and  
Fanny Taylor; James R. Nevitt and Mary  
C. Hine; John W. Clanton and Martha  
Mitchell; Frederick Walker, of New York city,  
and Elizabeth M. Brabner; Frank Wale and  
Rachel Englen; Harry T. Aspen, of Chicago,  
and Martha T. Brown; Albert Sydney Mc-  
Lemon, of United States Marine Corps, and  
Maudie Stevens; Theodore Jones, of Alexan-  
dria, Va., and Mattie A. Herbert; Henry  
Lee Tassling and Sarah Pauline Hombel;  
Robert L. Becklin and George Shaw;  
Anastasia N. Dillard and Gracy A. Acy; Lewis  
Halper and Rebecca A. Booker; Bernard  
Kammann and Rosa Mophaff; Jere-  
miah J. O'Leary and Mary V. Ryan.

CHRISTMAS OPENING.  
Annual Holiday Opening of the Atlantic  
and Pacific Tea Company.

One of the most pleasing events heralding the  
approach of the holiday season, and one which  
is looked forward to by a multitude of people in  
and about Washington, is the annual opening of  
the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company's  
stores. The opening this week for Christmas  
previous efforts in the attractiveness of the dis-  
play of wares and presents that are always a  
feature of this business, and in the decorations  
of the stores. Patrons in profusion are testifying  
distributed throughout the place and flags of all  
nations decorate the walls. One thousand and  
steam electric light is a new and brilliant  
illuminate the building. Paraphernalia are this  
week favored with a beautiful souvenir post-  
card entitled "No. 8." The subject of this post-  
card is delightfully wrought out in many  
colors and will be placed in the thousands of  
houses into which it will find its way. The main  
scene of this popular concern, as is well known,  
is at 301 and 303 Seventh street northwest.  
N. H. Bowman, the energetic and prominent  
local manager for the company, said to-day that  
the opening and display would continue the  
entire week, and will be open evenings to give  
opportunity for all to visit it. To Mr. Bowman's  
business ability and energy much of the success  
of the big company in this city is due. He is  
of the big business man and by business  
methods has placed the enterprise in the front  
rank of local enterprises. Although the business  
of the company are numerous, its extensive  
coverage the entire of the proceeds with which  
it is carried on shows the path of the manage-